



For Immediate Release: Thursday, September 15, 2005
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Web Audio: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/multimedia/ui_state.mp3

AUGUST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

Adjusted Data

Madison – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August was 4.6 percent, down from 4.7 percent in July and 4.9 percent in August 2004. The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in August was 4.9 percent, which was down from 5.0 percent in July.

"Wisconsin's labor market continues to improve and our economy continues to grow stronger," Secretary Gassman said. "The good news is, Wisconsin exports are growing at a faster pace than national exports, and that means jobs for Wisconsin's working families."

Unadjusted Data

Wisconsin's preliminary estimated unemployment rate for August 2005 is 4.3 percent compared to 4.6 percent in July and 4.5 percent in August 2004. The U.S. unemployment rate in August is estimated at 4.9 percent. The number of Wisconsin residents estimated to be unemployed in August was 130,208. That is down 10,301 from last year's August figure, and down about 10,400 from the July 2005 figure. Wisconsin's labor force is also down from last year's figures, which may be a reflection of the difficulty some employers are expressing in finding workers.

Unemployment statistics are based on labor market activities during the week of the 12th of the month.

Nonfarm wage and salary jobs are reported at 2,849,400 in August, which is up 2,800 from the July figure and up 16,700 from last year's August figure. Most industries showed very little over-the-month change, although trade was up 1,900 jobs, professional and business services was up 2,900 jobs and leisure and hospitality was up 3,900 jobs. The job gains were largely offset by losses in the government sector, where jobs dropped off 3,900 from July's figure.

Over-the-year job gains were experienced in most industries with the exception of manufacturing, which lost 2,300 jobs from last year and the government sector, which was down 1,400 jobs from last year. Trade was off 300 jobs, but wholesale trade was up 3,000 jobs while retail trade was off 3,300 jobs. Noteworthy gains were seen in construction - up 6,700 jobs from last year, professional and business services - up 5,500 jobs from last year, education and health services - up 4,200 jobs from last year, and leisure and hospitality - up 3,800 jobs from last year.

August employment and unemployment figures for individual counties will be available September 21, 2005. This release also is available at <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/>.

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
In Thousands

ITEM	NET CHANGE FROM				
	PRELIM. AUG 05	FINAL JUL 05	YEAR AGO AUG 04	MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES				
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3058.1	3082.1	3093.0	-24.0	-34.9
UNEMPLOYMENT	130.2	140.7	140.5	-10.5	-10.3
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.3	4.6	4.5	-0.3	-0.2
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2927.9	2941.5	2952.4	-13.6	-24.5
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2849.4	2846.6	2832.7	2.8	16.7
TOTAL PRIVATE	2469.4	2462.7	2451.3	6.7	18.1
GOODS PRODUCING	659.4	659.3	655.3	0.1	4.1
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3.9	3.9	4.2	0.0	-0.3
CONSTRUCTION	145.7	145.3	139	0.4	6.7
MANUFACTURING	509.8	510.1	512.1	-0.3	-2.3
Durable Goods	313.6	313.9	317.2	-0.3	-3.6
Nondurable Goods	196.2	196.2	194.9	0.0	1.3
SERVICE PRODUCING	2190	2187.3	2177.4	2.7	12.6
TRADE	436.7	434.8	437.0	1.9	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	119.5	119.3	116.5	0.2	3.0
Retail Trade	317.2	315.5	320.5	1.7	-3.3
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	107.1	107.5	106.2	-0.4	0.9
Utilities	11.6	11.6	11.8	0.0	-0.2
Information	50.2	50.1	50.2	0.1	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159.3	159.7	158.8	-0.4	0.5
Finance and Insurance	129.7	130	129.9	-0.3	-0.2
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	29.6	29.7	28.9	-0.1	0.7
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	263.1	260.2	257.6	2.9	5.5
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	88.1	88.3	89	-0.2	-0.9
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	39.7	39	39.4	0.7	0.3
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.					
Services	135.3	132.9	129.2	2.4	6.1
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	378.5	378.7	374.3	-0.2	4.2
Educational Services	43.8	44.8	44.3	-1.0	-0.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	334.7	333.9	330	0.8	4.7
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	279.6	275.7	275.8	3.9	3.8
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	41.4	41.3	42.7	0.1	-1.3
Accommodation & Food Services	238.2	234.4	233.1	3.8	5.1
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	135.5	136.7	136.1	-1.2	-0.6
GOVERNMENT	380	383.9	381.4	-3.9	-1.4
Federal Government	29.4	29.3	29.8	0.1	-0.4
State Government	97.6	95.6	97.2	2.0	0.4
Local Government	253	259	254.4	-6.0	-1.4
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	267.0	267.0	0.0	0.0	267.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes					
	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES				
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3028.3	3031.4	3071.6	-3.1	-43.3
UNEMPLOYMENT	139.0	143.2	149.2	-4.2	-10.2
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.6	4.7	4.9	-0.1	-0.3
EMPLOYMENT	2889.4	2888.2	2922.4	1.2	-33.0

*Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section, Bureau of Workforce Information